

VCNP Elk Hunts 2002

In the Fall of 2002, the Valles Caldera National Preserve (VCNP) will conduct the **first elk hunts** since government acquisition of this uniquely managed publicly owned land. The purposes of these hunts are to not only aid in management of herd size and quality, but to also provide a revenue source for management of this area and protect the extraordinary natural resources found on the Preserve.

The VCNP, previously called the *Baca Ranch*, is approximately 89,000 acres of high elevation forest and grasslands and is located in north central New Mexico. This magnificent piece of New Mexico is home to over 4,000 head of elk from April thru December. Located 50 miles north of Albuquerque, New Mexico, the Valles Caldera National Preserve is surrounded by the Santa Fe National Forest, Bandelier National Monument, and the Santa Clara Pueblo.

Now is the time to apply for a premier bull elk hunt of your choice. Five bull elk hunts are scheduled: One archery hunt, three rifle hunts and a muzzleloader hunt. Ninety bull elk access permits are available; five will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at various sportsman banquets and 85 will be awarded to lucky lottery ticket holders who apply through this national lottery. An application form for the lottery is included in this brochure and on the website www.publiclands.org/vcnplottery.

Lottery tickets will cost \$25 each and you may purchase as many as you like. Tickets go on sale by April 1st. The deadline for application is June 29th and the drawing will be held on July 15th. Each lottery ticket provides one chance for one access permit. Persons buying multiple tickets may win only one access permit. Access permits may either be used by the recipient or by any individual of the recipient's choice through sale, gift, or other transfer. Lucky lottery ticket holders will be notified following the draw results. Purchase of a lottery tickets(s) will not affect your eligibility in the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish public drawing; however, during a license year an individual cannot have more than one New Mexico elk license. For more details concerning the rules and eligibility for this lottery, please go to

www.publiclands.org/vcnplottery

Valles Caldera
National Preserve
Elk Hunts
PLIA
6501 4th St. Suite 1
Albuquerque, NM 87107



Valles Caldera National Preserve

Elk Hunts 2002



Valles Caldera National Preserve 2002 Bull Elk Hunt Access Permit Application Form

Send a completed lottery application form with payment to:

Valles Caldera National Preserve Bull Elk Hunts
Public Lands Interpretive Association
6501 Fourth Street, Suite I
Albuquerque, NM 87107
Toll free: 1-877-851-8946 or 1-877-276-9404

This lottery application may also be found at
www.publiclands.org/vcnplottery Photo copies of the application form
will be accepted.

Name *(please print or type)* _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

Hunt	Date	Permits Available	# of Tickets	Total
Archery	Sept. 10-20, 2002	20	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Rifle **	Oct. 5-9, 2002	15	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Rifle	Oct. 12-16, 2002	20	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Rifle	Oct. 19-23, 2002	20	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Muzzleloader	Oct. 26-30, 2002	10	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Amount Enclosed			\$ _____	

Payment Information

☐ Check enclosed *(make checks payable to "PLIA")*

☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ DISCOVER

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

****Note:** *The area available for 15 lottery winners during the October 5-9 hunt will be reduced from 10 to 7 subunits (see rule G). Three subunits will be reserved for hunters receiving access permits through auctions.*

Valles Caldera National Preserve Elk Hunts 2002

Rules for Elk Hunting on the VCNP:

- A. All hunters and visitors are required to attend VCNP hunt orientation one or two days prior to the assigned hunt.
- B. Scouting will be restricted to one day. Each hunter will be allowed to scout the day before their assigned hunt begins.
- C. One guest capable of assisting the hunter in cleaning and loading a downed elk may accompany each licensed hunter. Additional guests will not be permitted, except for approved guides.
- D. Hunters with a valid mature bull license may take only a male elk with at least one brow tine extending six or more inches from the main beam or at least one forked antler with both branches six or more inches long. A spike bull is not considered a legal bull.
- E. Vehicle traffic will be restricted to designated roads only. No All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) will be allowed for hunting, scouting, or retrieving of elk.
- F. Hunters will be allowed to pack elk on foot, with game carts or with a horse. Hunters are encouraged to make arrangements for packing of elk prior to hunt. Hunters will be asked to provide this information during hunter orientation.
- G. Hunters will be restricted to hunting within one of ten specified subunits on the VCNP. Hunting subunits will be assigned through a drawing at orientation.
- H. Outfitting and guide services are available, at the hunter's expense, from a list of outfitters who have applied for and received authorization from the VCNP. Hunters are responsible for all arrangements concerning outfitting and guide services.
- I. No camping for hunters or visitors will be permitted on the VCNP. Camping is permitted in the surrounding areas of the Santa Fe National Forest.
- J. No meat processing or storage services will be provided on the VCNP. All elk must be field dressed at the kill site.
- K. The VCNP reserves the right to remove any hunter from the VCNP for violations of rules or restrictions as published or presented at the orientation.
- L. Access permit holders must purchase a state elk permit from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. No hunter without an access permit and a state elk hunting license valid for Game Management Unit 6B will be allowed on the Preserve.
- Other rules and requirements will be provided during hunter orientation prior to each hunt. For a complete description of rules and regulations pertaining to hunting on the VCNP please visit

www.publiclands.org/vcnplottery

What is the Purpose of the VCNP?

The "Valles Caldera Preservation Act" (P.L. 106-248) designated these spectacular lands as a national preserve and outlined how they will be managed. The Act states that the preserve is established to: *"...protect and preserve the scientific, scenic, geologic, watershed, fish, wildlife, historic, cultural and recreation values of the Preserve, and to provide for multiple use and sustained yield of renewable resources within the Preserve..."*

Another purpose of the Act is to: *"...establish a demonstration area for an experimental management regime adapted to this unique property, which incorporates elements of public and private administration in order to promote long-term financial sustainability..."* consistent with other listed purposes.

Why Use an Auction and Lottery to Select Bull Elk Hunters on the VCNP?

This is an experiment. In keeping with a main principle of the Act *"...to promote long-term financial sustainability..."*, innovative means are being considered to generate revenue for the Preserve. An auction and lottery are being tried in 2002. Following this season, the success of this process will be evaluated and refined for subsequent years.

A second reason for both an auction and lottery is to provide hunters of all means the opportunity for a chance to hunt on the VCNP, while still generating revenues to support the Preserve. Although few sportsmen will be able to afford the auctioned hunts, virtually all would be able to afford the purchase of a \$25 lottery ticket for a chance at such an opportunity, particularly knowing that all funds generated will contribute to the management of the Preserve.

Other Elk Hunts Proposed on the VCNP..

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish will propose additional elk hunts on the VCNP. All of these hunts are for antlerless elk only. In 2002, these hunts will include up to ten hunting seasons and 150 antlerless elk permits. For information concerning these hunts please refer to the 2002-2003 New Mexico Big Game & Furbearer Rules & Information, page 28.